Danmarks Innovationsfond

Guidelines:

Green test, demonstration and development facilities

2026

These guidelines apply from 30 September 2026.

These guidelines have been translated with AI. In case of any discrepancies, the Danish version of the guidelines applies.

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1 Overview: Green test, demonstration and development facilities

Application deadline: 12 January 2027 at 12:00 noon

Project duration: 0.5–4 years

Total budget for the call: DKK 79.2 mio.[1]

Innovation Fund Denmark's investment per project: DKK 3–25 million

Innovation Fund Denmark's maximum investment rate: up to 50% of the total budget[2]

1.1 Background

Under the Agreements on Research and Innovation 2026-2029, DKK 79.2 million has been allocated in 2026 for the establishment of new test, demonstration and development facilities (TDU facilities) to support the implementation of new technologies in companies' products and services within the selected areas of the Roadmap for small, green TDU facilities..

The initiative forms part of the 2024 policy proposal Faster green solutions for the future, which set a direction for Denmark to accelerate research, innovation and implementation of technologies that support our climate targets and contribute to stronger business development. Green TDU facilities play a central role in bringing new solutions from idea to market.

1.2 Purpose

The purpose of this programme is to promote the impact of new green technological solutions through faster market access to test, demonstration and development facilities (TDU facilities). The programme will strengthen the development and scaling of green technologies through support for the establishment and expansion of TDU facilities. The programme has a particular focus on the early stages of scaling, where the need for smaller and flexibly accessible facilities is crucial for research environments, start-ups, and small and medium-sized enterprises. In this way, Denmark's strong position in innovation and the development of green solutions will be maintained and strengthened.

The initiative will contribute to a more coherent and effective ecosystem for green innovation in Denmark. The supported facilities should therefore complement and strengthen existing offerings – for example by connecting actors across the value chain or by addressing identified gaps in the market.

The programme will support Danish actors in developing, testing and demonstrating green solutions in order to strengthen their competitiveness and create value for Danish companies and knowledge institutions. Projects may advantageously form part of international collaborations where this contributes to quality, knowledge sharing and market access.

Under the programme, Innovation Fund Denmark provides funding for the establishment or expansion of

[1] Innovation Fund Denmark may decide to increase the total budget for this call. This may be the case, in particular, if there are unallo cated funds and a significant number of eligible applications in the call that cannot be funded within the original budget. At the same time, Innovation Fund Denmark is not obliged to allocate the entire amount available if a sufficient number of applications worthy of funding are not received.

[2] This applies regardless of whether individual project participants may, under the relevant state aid rules, be eligible for a higher individ ual aid intensity, as may, for example, be the case under special conditions for small enterprises (see Table 4 in Chapter 3.2) or innova tion clusters (see Table 5 in Chapter 3.2).

TDU facilities within the selected areas of the Roadmap for small, green TDU facilities.

- Carbon capture, utilisation and storage (CCUS)
- Power-to-X
- Climate- and environmentally friendly agriculture and food production
- Circular economy
- Biosolutions
- Wind technology

Support may, for example, be provided for facility-related costs for the purpose of:

- Validation and demonstration environments for new technologies
- Pilot plants, testbeds and development of scalable, modular test facilities
- Establishment and upgrading of smaller and flexibly accessible TDU facilities aimed at the early stages of scaling

See also the detailed mapping of identified needs within the selected areas in the Roadmap for small, green TDU facilities for inspiration.

1.3 Who can apply?

The call is open to private companies, including both SMEs and larger companies, research and knowledge institutions, GTS institutes and other organisations.

Applications may be submitted by individual entities or consortia. Consortia may include international partners. It is a prerequisite that the lead applicant is a Danish legal entity and that the planned facility will create value for actors in the Danish ecosystem.

The Danish Government's legal counsel has mapped the state aid framework for financing TDU facilities:Memorandum on the state aid framework when publicly funded TDU facilities are made available for commercial use. The mapping takes its starting point in different ways in which actors can collaborate on the development of TDU facilities. The purpose is to address the uncertainty expressed by many stakeholders regarding how collaborations can be established without conflicting with regulatory considerations. The framework for establishing the various collaboration constellations within the state aid rules is summarised in seven standard models and a cluster model, set out in Appendix 5 of the Roadmap for small, green TDU facilities.

Exclusion from Participating in Applications

- A 'company in difficulty' as defined in Article 2(18) of the General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER)* cannot enter into investment agreements.
- An applicant that has previously received aid which the European Commission has, by a previous decision, declared incompatible with the internal market, and which has not repaid such aid at the time the application is submitted to Innovation Fund Denmark, cannot receive an investment from Innovation Fund Denmark.
- An investment from Innovation Fund Denmark must not be in violation of national or international sanctions, including sanctions concerning the freezing of funds or prohibitions on the direct and indirect provision of services and products. The EU has, in particular, restricted access to funds and economic resources for certain persons, entities and bodies. A complete list of actors subject to EU sanctions is available online**.

* Definition af kriseramte virksomheder | Innovationsfonden
** Rådets Forordning (EU) nr. 269/2014 af 17. marts 2014 om restriktive foranstaltninger over for tiltag, der underminerer eller truer Ukraines territoriale integritet, suverænitet og uafhængighed.

Innovation Fund Denmark seeks to promote diversity in all its aspects. The Fund therefore encourages all interested parties, through the composition of the project group, to promote diversity in ethnicity, religion, gender identity, age, nationality, neurodiversity or disability.

1.4 How much can you apply for?

Innovation Fund Denmark has a total of DKK 79.2 million available for distribution under this call. The amount applied for must be between DKK 3 million and DKK 25 million. Innovation Fund Denmark may cover a maximum of 50% of the project's total costs for all participants. This applies regardless of whether individual project participants may, under the relevant state aid rules, be entitled to a higher individual investment rate. See Chapter 3 for further specifications.

Please note that an investment from Innovation Fund Denmark only covers project-related costs incurred after the start and before the end of the investment period.

The project's total expected budget may not exceed DKK 50 million, as the call is intended for the establishment or upgrading of smaller, green TDU facilities.

2 Application

2.1 How to apply?

The application must be created, completed and submitted through the electronic application system www.e-grant.dk no later than 12 January 2027 at 12:00 noon. Guidance on e-grant is available on the website of the Ministry of Higher Education and Science.

The application form and appendices must be completed in English. After the application deadline, it is no longer possible to amend the content of the application other than to correct personal data. Nor is it possible to submit additional material or other new information through the system or directly to Innovation Fund Denmark after the application deadline has expired.

2.2 Information security

Classified information covered by the Security Circular on the protection of classified information (including

Danish or NATO-classified material) must not be uploaded to e-grant. Contact Innovation Fund Denmark before submitting the application if there is any doubt as to whether classified information is included.

2.3 What must the application contain?

In the electronic form, you must describe the project for establishing or expanding the facility in detail so that the committee can assess your application on the basis of the completed form and the attached appendices and in accordance with the assessment criteria described in section 4.2.

It is important that the fields in the electronic application form are completed with the relevant content and do not exceed the maximum number of characters. It is therefore not permitted to continue a description of a specific field under another field in the application form. A continued description in a field where it does not belong will not be included in the assessment of the application.

The applicant must attach the following appendices to the application form in e-grant:

- Project budget: Excel spreadsheet
- Appendix A: Figures etc. (optional)
- Appendix B: Participant motivation (mandatory, use the Innovation Fund Denmark template)
- Appendix C: CVs for key persons (mandatory, use the Innovation Fund Denmark template)
- Appendix D: Gantt chart (mandatory, no format requirements)
- Appendix E: Operating budget (use the Innovation Fund Denmark template). The operating budget must be attached even though Innovation Fund Denmark does not provide funding for this phase.

Innovation Fund Denmark's templates must be used to prepare the budget and Appendices B, C and E. A template is also available for the cover page of Appendix A, but there is no template or specific format requirement for Appendix D, the Gantt chart. The templates can be downloaded from the Fund's website, www.Innovationsfonden.dk, or directly from the application form in e-grant.

2.3.1 Budget

The budgets must be prepared in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 3. The budget must be entered in a specific Excel template, which can be downloaded from the application form in e-grant. See the guidance in the Excel file for further information.

The file name may not exceed 45 characters. Please note that applicants invited to enter into an investment agreement with Innovation Fund Denmark may be asked to revise the completed budget. Please also note that the budget must contain information about the individual project participants, including – for Danish entities – CVR numbers and P-numbers[3]. If the application results in an investment, each Danish project participant must have a unique combination of CVR and P numbers. If several project participants have the same CVR number, for example, each must have its own P number and complete the budget for each individual participant within the same CVR number.

2.3.2 Appendix A: Figures etc.

Appendix A may contain figures, graphs, references, etc. Appendix A may comprise no more than eight A4 pages. A template that can be downloaded from the application form in e-grant must be used as the cover page of the appendix. The template cover page is not included in the page limit. The appendix must be uploaded in PDF format and attached to the electronic application form. Appendix A must not contain substantial new information, but must support the content already described in the application.

2.3.3 Appendix B: Participant motivation

[3] A P-number, consisting of 10 digits, is assigned to every new legal entity and indicates where the company operates. A CVR number can be associated with multiple P-numbers.

Appendix B describes the key competencies and motivation of each project participant in relation to the project activities. A template that can be downloaded from the application form in e-grant must be used for the appendix. The appendix must be uploaded in PDF format and attached to the electronic application form.

2.3.4 Appendix C: CVs for key persons

Appendix C identifies the key persons participating in the project, including their qualifications in relation to the project and the time they expect to spend on the project. A template for specifying key persons, which can be downloaded from the application form in e-grant, must be used for the appendix.

The template cover page listing the key persons is followed by CVs for the persons specified. Key persons are individuals who participate in the project activities and are central to the success of the project. This includes the project manager, work package leaders and others. Each CV may be no more than one A4 page, but there are no additional requirements regarding the CV format.

Appendix C must be uploaded as one combined PDF file, with each CV beginning on a new page, and attached to the electronic application form.

2.3.5 Appendix D: Gantt chart

A Gantt chart must be attached as Appendix D. Innovation Fund Denmark does not require the use of a specific format, but the Gantt chart must be presented in a readable format. The appendix must be uploaded in PDF format and attached to the electronic application form.

2.3.6 Appendix E: Operating budget

An operating budget must be attached as Appendix E. An Excel template must be used and completed for the appendix, but the operating budget must be uploaded in PDF format to the electronic application form. The template is used to provide an overall expected operating budget for the first three years.

2.3.7 Formal requirements

Please note that compliance with the formal requirements for completing an application is important in order to ensure efficient case processing and equal treatment. Innovation Fund Denmark will assess only applications that comply with all formal requirements.

Requirements for the Application Format and Framework

If the application does not comply with all formal requirements and deadlines, the application will be rejected without substantive assessment pursuant to Executive Order No. 1150 of 25 October 2017, Section 5. This includes the following formal requirements and deadlines:

- All texts in the application and its annexes must be prepared in English, unless otherwise clearly stated in the application form.
- The project period must be between six months and four years.
- The application must be created, completed and submitted through the electronic application system within the application deadline specified in the call.
- The total amount applied for must be within the funding limits stated in the call, and the budget must be prepared using a specific template in e-grant.
- The application must not exceed the maximum number of characters.
- The electronic application form must be completed with the required information, and the mandatory annexes must be prepared using the annex templates in e-grant and attached to the application form. The annexes must comply with the specified requirements, and all annexes must meet the formal and substantive requirements set out in the guidelines. Annexes must not be password-protected or otherwise locked. Applicants should also be aware that there are limits on the size of annexes in terms of the number of pages and megabytes.

3 Investment rates and costs

This chapter provides an overview of the maximum investment rate for each project participant and the types of costs that the investment from Innovation Fund Denmark may cover.

The budget must include all direct project costs, i.e. costs that can be directly attributed to the project, regardless of whether the costs are intended to be covered by Innovation Fund Denmark or by the project participants themselves or another source (see section 3.3 on co-financing).

3.1 What can funding be applied for?

Eligible costs depend on the type of test, demonstration and development facility being upgraded or established – see Table 1 for the relevant facility types and articles under the General Block Exemption Regulation (see Chapter 7 for further information on the state aid rules affecting the investment rate).

Table 1: Selection of the relevant article under the General Block Exemption Regulation

Article under the General Block Exemption Regulation	Facility type
Article 26	Research infrastructure
Article 26a	Testing and experimentation infrastructure
Article 27	Innovation clusters

"Research infrastructure" (Article 26) means facilities, resources and related services used by science for research in the respective fields, including scientific equipment or sets of instruments, knowledge-based resources such as collections, archives or structured scientific data, enabling ICT-based infrastructures such as networks, data processing, software and communication, or any other unique entity essential for carrying out research. Research infrastructure will therefore primarily be relevant for research institutions

which, in addition to using it for their own research activities, may make it available to a third party for a fee.

“Testing and experimentation infrastructure” (Article 26a) means facilities, equipment, capacity and resources such as test benches, pilot lines, demonstrators, testing facilities or living labs, as well as related support services, used to develop new or improved products, processes and services and to test and scale up technologies in order to advance industrial research and experimental development. Testing and experimentation infrastructure will therefore primarily be used for economic activities and typically by companies and/or GTS institutes.

“Innovation clusters” (Article 27) means structures or organised groups of independent parties (such as innovative start-ups, small, medium-sized and large enterprises, research and knowledge-dissemination organisations, research infrastructure, testing and experimentation infrastructure, digital innovation hubs, non-profit organisations and other associated economic actors) intended to stimulate innovative activity and new methods of collaboration, including through digital means, by sharing and/or promoting the sharing of facilities and the exchange of knowledge and expertise, and by contributing effectively to knowledge transfer, networking, dissemination of information and collaboration between companies and other organisations in the cluster.

Investment aid for research infrastructure (Article 26) and for testing and experimentation infrastructure (Article 26a) may cover costs for tangible or intangible assets in connection with upgrading or establishing test and demonstration facilities. No aid is provided for the subsequent operation of the facilities.

For innovation clusters (Article 27), in addition to aid for tangible and intangible costs related to upgrading or establishing facilities, operational costs may also be provided to the operator of the innovation cluster.

All costs must be directly related to the project. The following categories may be included in the budget in the application:

- **Tangible costs**

  Buildings, refurbishment, laboratories, pilot plants, test equipment, machinery, installations, instruments, furnishings, safety installations, etc.

- **Intangible costs**

  Software, licences, databases, know-how, patents and other intangible rights necessary for the infrastructure/facilities.

- **Costs of installation, calibration and testing of the facility**

  To a limited extent, support may be applied for activities or personnel costs that are necessary and directly connected with making the facility operational (i.e. not derived activities) and are incurred internally by the project participant.

- **External services**

  Consultancy or other services from a subcontractor, such as installation, calibration and testing of purchased tangible or intangible assets.

- **Operational costs (note: only permitted for innovation clusters (Article 27))**

  In particular for innovation clusters (Article 27), operational costs may be provided for activities involving personnel (e.g. cluster management, network facilitation, technical staff), administration, activation of the TDU facility (e.g. matchmaking, networking activities, workshops), marketing of the cluster, and skills development (e.g. courses, conferences, knowledge sharing).

No support is provided for:

- internal salary costs associated with ordinary operation and administration (special conditions for innovation clusters (Article 27))

- project management after establishment
- maintenance
- developing business models, market analyses, direct sales promotion and other commercial market activities, including disseminating already existing technology or activities involving commercial operation of facilities, etc.

Indirect costs

Indirect costs cannot, as a general rule, be included as eligible costs.

For operational costs to the operator of an innovation cluster under Article 27, personnel and administrative costs, including overhead costs, may nevertheless be included to the extent that the costs can be attributed to activities covered by Article 27(8). The costs and the allocation method used must be documented.

Support cannot be obtained for activities that have already commenced or are supported by public funds from another source.

3.2 Investment rates intensity

The permitted investment rate applied for by each project participant will depend on the type of organisation and facility. Tables 3–5 set out the permitted aid rate for types of organisation under each relevant article of the General Block Exemption Regulation (Table 1). For companies (both Danish and international), the investment rate depends on the size of the company, as set out in Table 2. Danish approved national cluster organisations are considered companies for this purpose and follow the definitions in Table 2.

Table 2: Definition of company size:

	Number of employees	Annual turnover	Annual balance sheet total
Small enterprises	< 50	≤ EUR 10 million	≤ EUR 10 million
Medium-sized enterprises	< 250	≤ EUR 50 million	≤ EUR 43 million
Large enterprises	≥ 250 or exceeds the thresholds for medium-sized enterprises	> EUR 50 million	> EUR 43 million

The definition of company size is based on the definition in Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC of 6 May 2003 concerning the definition of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises: Link

Table 3: Investment rate in % when applying Article 26 to research infrastructure (collaboration models 1–3, 5 and 7 in Appendix 5 of the Roadmap for small, green TDU facilities and Chapter 3 of the Memorandum on the state aid framework when publicly funded TDU facilities are made available for commercial use)

Type of organisation	Maximum investment rate	Key conditions
Public Danish or foreign research institutions, including universities, university colleges and sector research institutions	50	If the infrastructure is used for both economic and non-economic activities, separate accounts must be kept for financing, costs and revenues.
Business academies	50	Same as above.
GTS institutes	50	Only if the facility can specifically be classified as research infrastructure.
Large enterprises	50	Only if the facility can specifically be classified as

Type of organisation	Maximum investment rate	Key conditions
		research infrastructure.
Medium-sized enterprises	50	Only if the facility can specifically be classified as research infrastructure.
Small enterprises	50	Only if the facility can specifically be classified as research infrastructure.
Non-profit organisations	50	Only if the facility can specifically be classified as research infrastructure.

Table 4: Investment rate in % when applying Article 26a to testing and experimentation infrastructure (collaboration models 2–6 in Appendix 5 of the Roadmap for small, green TDU facilities and Chapter 3 of the Memorandum on the state aid framework when publicly funded TDU facilities are made available for commercial use)

Type of organisation	Maximum basic investment rate	Investment rate if at least 80% of the facilities' annual capacity is allocated to SMEs	Investment rate if the facilities are cross-border, provided that at least two Member States provide public funding, or if the facility is evaluated and selected at EU level	Investment rate if both special conditions are met
Small enterprises	45	50	55	60
Medium-sized enterprises	35	40	45	50
Large enterprises	25	30	35	40
GTS institutes	25	30	35	40
Other organisations	25	30	35	40
Other organisations meeting the SME requirements (see Table 2)	Same rate as for small or medium-sized enterprises	Same rate as for small or medium-sized enterprises	Same rate as for small or medium-sized enterprises	Same rate as for small or medium-sized enterprises

In particular for Article 26a of the General Block Exemption Regulation, the requested aid percentage may be increased by 5 percentage points if at least 80% of the facility's capacity is allocated to small and medium-sized enterprises. Please note that the application must then explain how the facility is targeted at small and medium-sized enterprises.

In addition, the requested aid percentage may be increased by 10 percentage points for cross-border testing and experimentation infrastructures, provided that at least two Member States provide public funding, or where the testing and experimentation infrastructure is evaluated and selected at EU level. The applicant must be able to document the relevant EU evaluation and EU selection[4]. Innovation Fund Denmark will make a specific assessment of whether the condition is met.

Documentation demonstrating compliance with the special conditions must be submitted to Innovation

[4] EU-selected" means that the infrastructure must have been evaluated and selected through a relevant EU process or EU programme. International relevance or the participation of foreign users is not in itself sufficient

Fund Denmark after the facility has been put into operation. Failure to comply with the conditions may result in a requirement to repay the aid.

Table 5: Investment rate in % when applying Article 27 to innovation clusters (the cluster model in Appendix 5 of the Roadmap for small, green TDU facilities and Chapter 3 of the Memorandum on the state aid framework when publicly funded TDU facilities are made available for commercial use)

Type of organisation	Investment rate for establishment or upgrading	Investment rate for establishment or upgrading in specially eligible area*	Investment rate for operation
Owner of the innovation cluster	50	55	Not relevant
Operator of the innovation cluster / cluster organisation	Not relevant unless the operator is also the owner	Not relevant unless the operator is also the owner	50
Legal entity that both owns and operates the innovation cluster	50	55	50
Business consortium without separate legal personality operating the innovation cluster	Not relevant unless the consortium also owns the cluster	Not relevant unless the consortium also owns the cluster	50
Public or private entities, e.g. municipalities, regions, public companies, foundations, associations, GTS institutes, research institutions or companies	50, if the entity is the owner	55, if the entity is the owner and the condition is met	50, if the entity is the operator/cluster organisation

* In special cases, investment aid may be increased by 5 percentage points if the innovation cluster is established or upgraded in an eligible area under Article 107(3)(c) TFEU, according to Denmark's regional aid map. This is expected to be relevant only in limited geographical areas in Denmark.

3.3 Co-financing

The budget may include financing from a third party for activities included in the application. To ensure compliance with EU state aid rules, Innovation Fund Denmark does not finance activities for which support has been received from other public grant schemes in the EU or its Member States, including Denmark, unless Innovation Fund Denmark has approved this in writing.

3.4 Subsequent access to the facilities

It must be possible for multiple users to access the established test and demonstration facilities, and access must be provided on transparent and non-discriminatory terms.

Companies that have financed at least 10% of the investment costs of the infrastructure may be granted preferential access on more favourable terms. To avoid overcompensation, such access must be proportionate to the company's contribution to the investment costs, and these conditions must be made publicly available.

The application must therefore demonstrate that the test facilities can be used by multiple users on transparent and non-discriminatory terms, and that the price charged for using the facilities is determined according to the applicable article of the General Block Exemption Regulation:

For Article 26: the charge for operating or using the infrastructure must correspond to the market price.

For Article 26a: the price charged for operating or using the infrastructure must correspond to the market price or, in the absence of a market price, reflect the costs plus a reasonable profit margin.

For Article 27: fees for using the cluster's facilities and participating in the cluster's activities must correspond to the market price or reflect the costs including a reasonable profit margin.

If companies have borne more than 10% of the costs of establishment, the application must state whether

they are granted access on particularly favourable terms and what those terms consist of.

4 Assessment

4.1 How is the assessment procedure?

First, all applications are screened for formal deficiencies. Applications that do not comply with the formal requirements and deadlines are rejected without substantive assessment. Innovation Fund Denmark then checks that the applications fall within the state aid framework.

Following the administrative check, the applications are assessed by Innovation Fund Denmark's Grand Solutions Committee for Green Transition. Where considered appropriate, additional evaluations may be obtained from external assessors or, for example, interviews may be conducted with applicants. Evaluations carried out by external evaluators are solely intended to support the committee's assessment. External evaluations will be subject to consultation with the parties concerned. Once the committee has received and considered any comments from the applicant, it decides which applications will receive an offer of investment from Innovation Fund Denmark. The committee's final decision is based on all relevant information, i.e. the committee's assessment of the application, external assessments, comments from the consultation process and the results of the administrative assessment carried out by the secretariat. In the event of applications being tied in the final prioritisation, the committee may take into account thematic breadth and complementarity in the overall portfolio of projects receiving support under the call. The applicant will then receive either an invitation to enter into an investment agreement or a rejection.

4.1 What criteria are used to assess your application?

The application must meet the formal requirements and be aligned with the overall framework and conditions in order to qualify for assessment.

The following factors are taken into account when assessing the applications:

Project rationale and technological foundation

When assessing the project rationale and technological foundation, emphasis will be placed on:

- The clarity and relevance of the project's purpose, including whether the objectives are specific, measurable and well-defined.
- The quality and relevance of the project's technological focus, including the technologies supported by the facility, the services offered by the facility, and the defined TRL range.
- The extent to which the proposed facility is positioned in relation to the state of the art and existing facilities, including whether it complements rather than duplicates existing capacities.
- The project's contribution to strengthening technological capabilities and its coherence with relevant national or strategic priorities, including its role in supporting scaling and commercialisation.

Impact and value creation

When assessing the expected impact and value creation of the project, emphasis will be placed on:

- The relevance and likelihood of the expected impact, including the extent to which the impact is substantiated and, where possible, quantified.
- The extent to which the facility contributes to a coherent Danish ecosystem for innovation, scaling and value creation.
- The extent to which demand for the facility is clearly documented, including identification of target groups and documentation of their needs.
- The clarity and strength of the facility's value creation, including how the facility provides added value compared with existing alternatives.

Project plan and organisation

When assessing the project plan and organisation, emphasis will be placed on:

- The clarity and appropriateness of the project organisation and management and governance structure, including ownership structure, rights and division of responsibilities regarding operation.
- The quality and feasibility of the project plan, including the structure of work packages, milestones, deliverables and timetable.
- The relevance and complementarity of the competencies of the project group and consortium, including the operator's experience with commercial operation of facilities.
- Identification and management of significant risks and description of relevant plans to mitigate risks.
- The robustness and realism of the business model and the assumptions underlying long-term financial sustainability, including sources of income, significant costs and expected utilisation.
- The quality and realism of the budgets for establishment and operation, including whether they are proportionate to the scope and complexity of the project.
- The appropriateness of the chosen location and the extent to which the facility is integrated into relevant ecosystems (e.g. business, research or innovation environments).
- The ability to establish and operate the facility, including relevant regulatory or practical matters (e.g. permits, infrastructure and timetable).
- The extent to which access to the facility is ensured on transparent and non-discriminatory terms, including through appropriate pricing principles and, where relevant, well-founded and transparent arrangements for preferential access.

5 From invitation to project start

5.1 Investment agreement

If the application can be approved, the applicant will receive a written invitation to enter into an investment agreement with Innovation Fund Denmark. The project must commence no later than 60 days after the investment agreement has been signed by all parties, unless the Fund's secretariat has expressly granted written permission for a postponement. Innovation Fund Denmark reserves the right to discontinue the conclusion of an investment agreement if the project cannot commence within a reasonable period. Minor changes may be made in the period up to the signing of the investment agreement, provided that Innovation Fund Denmark and all project participants approve the changes and that they do not materially affect the substance or implementation of the project.

Before finally entering into the investment agreement, Innovation Fund Denmark will make a specific assessment of whether the project activities comply with the requirements of the relevant articles of the General Block Exemption Regulation.

The investment agreement will also describe more specific terms for exit from the facilities in order to support a lasting impact of Innovation Fund Denmark's start-up investment.

5.2 Collaboration agreement

Where the project is a consortium with several partners, Innovation Fund Denmark requires the project participants to enter into a collaboration agreement regulating their cooperation during both the establishment phase and the operating phase with regard to intellectual property rights, responsibilities and operation. The content of the collaboration agreement does not have to be approved by Innovation Fund Denmark or attached as an appendix to the investment agreement. The project participants must confirm that a collaboration agreement has been prepared and signed by all project participants before Innovation Fund Denmark

can sign the investment agreement.

5.3 Your responsibility as a main applicant

The lead applicant submits the application on behalf of all project participants. It is therefore the lead applicant's responsibility to ensure that the information in the electronic application form is correct, that the necessary appendices are attached, that the content of the appendices is correct, and that the application is submitted before the call deadline expires. It is also the lead applicant's responsibility to ensure that duly authorised persons represent the other project participants in the application.

In addition, the lead applicant is responsible for contact with Innovation Fund Denmark throughout the application process.

5.3.1 Duty to inform about other funding sources

The lead applicant is obliged to immediately inform Innovation Fund Denmark if significant changes occur in the submitted information, including if funding has been received from another source for the activities or parts thereof. If Innovation Fund Denmark assesses that activities in the project have received or will receive funding from public support schemes (local, regional or national authorities, public funds, an internationally publicly funded body or similar), the project as a whole will not be eligible for investment from Innovation Fund Denmark.

If funding for the activity has been or will be applied for from another source, Innovation Fund Denmark reserves the right to obtain information on whether such an amount has been granted.

6 During the project

Innovation Fund Denmark closely monitors the grant and participates regularly in steering committee meetings during the establishment phase, maintaining close contact with the project manager. The project will report annually, with the possibility of semi-annual or annual financial reporting followed by payments, except for the first 20% of the grant, which may be paid at the start of the project. Auditing of expenditure will follow Innovation Fund Denmark's audit instructions for Grand Solutions projects. The specific terms of the grant are set out in the investment agreement.

6.1.1 RRI, The Danish Code of Conduct for Research Integrity and URIS

Innovation Fund Denmark places emphasis on Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI), which aims to create better coherence between research and innovation processes and results and society's values and needs. Innovation Fund Denmark promotes RRI both through the Fund's overall strategies and through its projects, and Innovation Fund Denmark follows the European Commission's definition and implementation of RRI. [5]

Innovation Fund Denmark also supports the principles set out in The Danish Code of Conduct for Research Integrity and expects the projects in which Innovation Fund Denmark invests to follow the guidance in RRI and the code of conduct. [6]

In addition, Innovation Fund Denmark follows the guidelines for international research and innovation cooperation (URIS). [7]

6.1.2 Data management

If the project receives funding from Innovation Fund Denmark, the project participants are required to prepare a data management plan as part of the project plan. A data management plan contains an overall plan

[5] For further information on Responsible Research and Innovation and Innovation Fund Denmark's requirements, see: https://innovationsfonden.dk/da/om-innovationsfonden
[6] For further information on the Danish Code of Conduct for Research Integrity, see:: https://ufsn.dk/publikationer/2026/januar/det-danske-kodeks-for-integritet-i-forskning/
[7] For further information on URIS, see: https://ufm.dk/media/wyvhuhjh/uris-retningslinjer.pdf

for managing data generated among the project participants within the project.

It also describes relevant matters under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Innovation Fund Denmark encourages project-generated data to be managed in accordance with the FAIR principles (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable) as described in the EU's "Guidelines on FAIR Data Management in Horizon 2020". [8]

6.1.3 Retention of supporting accounting material

Accounting material relating to the grant must be retained in accordance with the accounting regulations for the Danish public accounting system and the Danish Bookkeeping Act for private companies. The retention requirement is 10 full financial years after the current year.

6.1.4 Open access

Innovation Fund Denmark has endorsed the provisions of the "Open Access Policy for Public Research Councils and Foundations". [9] This means that published scientific articles resulting from full or partial funding from Innovation Fund Denmark must be made freely available to everyone through open access if the journal permits it. See the full wording of the policy under "Policy for Research Grants" [10] on Innovation Fund Denmark's website.

6.1.5 Reporting of grants

Innovation Fund Denmark reports grant and investment payments to the Danish Tax Agency in accordance with the requirements of the Guidance on Effective Grant Administration (section 2.6.2).

The reporting is carried out using the grant recipient's CPR, CVR or SE number, which is used for identification.

The reporting is carried out regardless of whether the grant is taxable and is solely an information obligation between Innovation Fund Denmark and the Danish Tax Agency.

Grants provided to state, regional or municipal authorities and certain associations, foundations and institutions are exempt from the reporting obligation.

6.1.6 Termination of an investment

Innovation Fund Denmark may require one or more thorough project reviews during the project period. Furthermore, Innovation Fund Denmark reserves the right to stop its investment and require repayment of the investment or parts thereof, as well as repayment of amounts already paid, if the agreed conditions for the investment are not complied with, including if the project has insufficient progress or if the project is assessed as being unable to achieve the objectives underlying Innovation Fund Denmark's investment in the project. [11]

If the participants have provided incorrect or misleading information or withheld material information during the project or in connection with Innovation Fund Denmark's investment, Innovation Fund Denmark may also decide to stop the investment, including requiring repayment of amounts already paid.

7 State aid

Innovation Fund Denmark's grants under this call are awarded pursuant to Article 26 of the General Block Exemption Regulation as investment aid for research infrastructure, Article 26a as investment aid for testing and experimentation infrastructure, or Article 27 as investment aid for innovation clusters (EU Regulation No

[8] For further information on the FAIR principles, see the EU guidelines, version 3.0, dated 26 July 2016: https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/hi/oa_pilot/h2020-hi-oa-data-mgt_en.pdf
[9] For further information, see: Open Access-politik for offentlige forskningsfonde.
[10] For the full wording, see:: Policy for Research Grants.
For further information, see: BEK nr. 1150 af 25/10/2017, Bekendtgørelse om bevillingsfunktionen m.v. under Danmarks Innovationsfond §9-10.

651/2014 of 17 June 2014). It is a prerequisite for the award of aid that the project is administered in accordance with the requirements of Articles 26, 26a and 27.

Reference is made to the guidance on the opportunities provided by the state aid rules when several parties cooperate on the establishment and/or use of TDU facilities in Appendix 5 of the Roadmap for small green TDU facilities and in the Memorandum on the state aid framework when publicly funded TDU facilities are made available for commercial use The terms set out in the checklist for cooperation on TDU facilities must be complied with.

8 Publication of information

Innovation Fund Denmark publishes an overview of applications that have received funding. The overview will contain the organisational project participants, project title, project description, amount awarded, total project budget and project duration.

If access to applications and other case material is requested under the Danish Access to Public Administration Files Act, Innovation Fund Denmark will, in dialogue with the applicants, ensure that business-sensitive information and/or other information that cannot be disclosed under the law is not released.

See Innovation Fund Denmark's privacy policy for further information on how Innovation Fund Denmark processes personal data.

Innovation Fund Denmark reserves the right to obtain information on results and effects for a period of three years after the project has been completed.

9 About the guidelines

9.1 Legal basis

These guidelines describe the general rules and framework applicable to applications for support for establishing or expanding smaller, green test, demonstration and development facilities.

The guidelines have been laid down by Innovation Fund Denmark pursuant to section 18(2) of the Danish Act on Innovation Fund Denmark (Consolidation Act No. 156 of 13 February 2025).

9.2 Further information and support

In addition to these guidelines, applicants need the relevant call text(s), which describe the framework for the application and deadlines, as well as material referred to in a given call text.

The relevant documents are available to applicants on Innovation Fund Denmark's website, Danmarksinnovationsfond.dk

Questions regarding the call and guidelines may be addressed to the contact persons listed on Innovation Fund Denmark's website in the relevant call.

Technical questions about using the electronic application system, e-grant, should be addressed support.e-grant@ufm.dk or telephone +45 33 92 91 90 (telephone hours are 09:00-12:00 on weekdays).

9.3 Technical disclaimer

The Danish Agency for Higher Education and Science is responsible for e-grant and is obliged to inform system users of errors that make e-grant so unavailable that they affect the applicant's ability to submit applications by the deadline. Updates regarding unavailability will be published here.

Innovation Fund Denmark reserves the right to extend the application deadline for all affected applicants. This will be published here and communicated via messages to applications already started.

Innovation Fund Denmark and the Danish Agency for Higher Education and Science are not liable for misinformation resulting from software errors, calculation errors, transmission errors and similar errors, or for any claims for compensation resulting from incorrect use of e-grant.